In the claims:

Please amend the claims in accordance with the following listing

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ messaging manager for managing a set of messaging services, the ~~system~~ messaging manager comprising:

logic for executing main tasks;~~,~~

a profile database;~~,~~

a link for coupling to a messaging server, for providing messaging connectivity to the messaging manager and for sending and receiving messages therefrom;

and at least one user interface;~~,~~

the ~~system~~ messaging manager being adapted to:

receive via the link a message belonging to a communication between an end-user and a ~~messaging~~ service provider, wherein the message is sent from either the ~~messaging~~ service provider or from a terminal used by the end-user;~~,~~

obtain data from the message, and when the data is a search key;~~,~~

search for at least one profile stored in the profile database by using the search key, ~~said~~ the profile being a data collection containing information about either service providers, services, end-users, or customer care, and when the at least one profile is found in the database;~~,~~

perform at least one task defined by the at least one profile;

wherein the profile was ~~which is found in the profile database and which is~~ created by one of the following parties: a service provider, ~~providing the messaging service,~~ a service operator controlling the messaging service, or a ~~the~~ customer care entity ~~acting on behalf of the end-user~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ messaging manager as described in claim 1, ~~characterized in that the system~~ wherein the messaging manager is further adapted to~~:~~ generate the search key by using the message data as input.

3. (Currently Amended) The messaging manager ~~system~~ as described in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the message is sent by the end-user.

4. (Currently Amended) The messaging manager ~~system~~ as described in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the message is sent by the ~~messaging~~ service provider.

5. (Currently Amended) The messaging manager ~~system~~ as described in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the messaging manager ~~system~~ is further adapted to:

obtain a second search key from the message~~;~~,

access a second profile from the profile database by using the second search key~~;~~ and,

perform a second task defined in the second profile.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 1, wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is further adapted to:

form an input message in accordance with the message received and the profile found~~;~~

send the input message to the ~~messaging~~ service provider~~;~~ and,

receive an output message~~, which the messaging service sends~~ sent by the service provider as response to the input message.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 6, wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is further adapted to:

form a response message in accordance with the output message received and the profile found~~;~~ and,

send the response message to the end-user.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 1, wherein the logic executes at least one of the following main tasks: service provider management, service management, user management, customer care management, and managing the quality of service.

10-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the service provider management is based on profiles~~, which include~~ having at least one of the following pieces of information: alternatives of a billing model, service usage limitations, service deployment rights, routing rules, a choice of a mobile subscribing integrated services digital network (MSISDN) number forwarding.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the billing model defines how and to whom the use of a service is billed.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the billing model includes a predefined limit, so that when the predefined limit is reached, the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to perform at least one of the following operation: block the transaction of the service, block the use of the service, or provide a warning.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim ~~11~~1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to address a charge relating to ~~said~~ a transaction between the end user and the service provider, to at least one party defined by a service provider.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the alternatives of the billing model contain a list of price/tariff classes which are allowable for a service.

18. (~~Currently Amended~~c) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the alternatives of the billing model ~~contains~~ contain a list of price/tariff tags which are allowable for a service.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to set price/tariff classes to messages, the price/tariff classes being requested by the service provider and belonging to said list.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim ~~10~~1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to ~~support~~ allow a service provider to delegate ~~some~~ a subset of its rights to another service provider.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim ~~10~~1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to ~~support~~ allow a service provider to create a profile for another service provider.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the service usage limitations limit the number of services ~~to~~ that may be deployed.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the service usage limitations limit the maximum throughput of a service.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the access control is based on a blacklist that defines illegal end-users of a service.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the service deployment rights ~~concern deployment phases:~~ is directed to a service deployment phase selected from a list consisting of

SMSC simulator tests, end-to-end tests, ~~and after that either~~ a private usage phase, ~~or~~ a public usage phase, and a combination thereof.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 25, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the task defined by the at least one profile found, relates to one of the deployment phases.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 25, further comprising means for granting the service deployment rights for at least one of the deployment phases.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the access control is based on a whitelist that defines legal end-users of a service.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least a portion of the routing rules ~~concern~~ are directed to a set of shortcodes addressed to a service provider, a shortcode of the ~~said~~ set being mapped to a certain route, and the service provider being able to map the shortcode to a service.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to route a message according to a shortcode of the message.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to forward an MSISDN number of a message to a receiver of the message when ~~the~~ MSISDN forwarding is chosen.

32. Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to execute at least one of the following actions: the billing model, the service usage limitations, the service deployment rights, the routing rules, the choice of an MSISDN number

forwarding, wherein said action is initiated through the user interface of the service management and wherein said action is allowable by a service operator.

33. (cancelled).

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein profiles ~~intended for the use of end-users~~ have a hierarchical relationship so that a profile~~,~~ which is higher in the hierarchical relationship, determines what definitions are possible in another profile that is lower in the hierarchical relationship.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 9, further comprising means that enable a customer care representative to act on behalf of an end-user.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the managing of the quality of service is based on a quality of service (QoS) level which ~~includes~~ comprises at least a minimum performance for a service.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 36, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the minimum performance is measured as message throughput per time unit.

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 36, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the minimum performance is measured as the number of messages.

39. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 36, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the QoS level further ~~includes~~ comprises a traffic priority.

40. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 36, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the QoS level further ~~includes~~ comprises a choice of method for reducing traffic.

41. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 40, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to reduce the traffic by delaying the processing of a message until the messaging ~~system~~ manager is no longer overloaded.

42. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 40, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to reduce the traffic by deleting a ~~message~~ received message.

43. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 36, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is further adapted to~~:~~ calculate the resource usage of each service and calculate the sum of the resource usage of services.

44. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 36, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to determine whether the service has obtained the QoS level.

45. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to store a transaction in a transaction database, said transaction being initiated by the ~~message~~ received message.

46. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim ~~10~~1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to store a transaction in the transaction database, said transaction being initiated through ~~one of the~~ a user interfaces.

47. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~messaging manager as defined in claim 45, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~system~~messaging manager is adapted to~~:~~ use the transaction database and calculate statistics concerning at least one of the following user groups: a service operator, a service ~~providers~~provider, an end-users, customer care entity.

48. (Currently Amended) A method for managing the use of a set of messaging services, utilizing a messaging manager coupled to a messaging router, the method comprising the steps of:

in the messaging manager, receiving- from the messaging router a message belonging to a communication between an end-user and a ~~messaging~~ service provider, wherein the message is sent from either the ~~messaging~~ service provider or a terminal used by the end-user,

obtaining data from the message, wherein the data is a search key,

searching at least one data collection in a set of data collections by using the search key, ~~said~~ the set of data collections containing information about either service providers, services, end-users, or customer care ~~agent~~entity,

when ~~said~~ the at least one data collection matching the search key is found;

performing at least one task defined by the found at least one data collection;

~~which is found in the set of data collections and which is~~

wherein the found data collection was created by one of the following parties: a service provider ~~providing the messaging service~~, a service operator ~~controlling the messaging service~~, or the customer care ~~agent~~entity, acting on behalf of the end-user.

49. (Previously presented) The method as described in claim 48, further comprising the step of generating the search key by using the data as input.

50. (Previously presented) The method as described in claim 48, wherein the message is sent by the end-user.

51. (Previously presented) The method as described in claim 48, wherein the message is sent by the messaging service.

52. (currently amended) The method as described in claim 48, further comprising the steps of:

obtaining a second search key from the message;

accessing a second data collection from the set of data collections by using the second search key; and,

performing a second task defined in the second data collection.

53. (Currently amended) The method as defined in claim 48 wherein the steps of performing the task the method includes the steps of:

forming an input message in accordance with the message received and the data collection found;

sending the input message to the ~~messaging~~ service provider; and,

receiving an output message ~~which the messaging~~ sent from the service provider, ~~sends~~ as response to the input message.

54. (Currently amended) The method as defined in claim 53, wherein the step of performing the task further comprises the steps of:

forming a response message in accordance with the output message received and the data collection found; and,

sending the response message to the end-user.

55. (deleted)